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先生の人生は僕らにとって
ちっとも残念じゃない……

イラストレーション・デザイン 佐原ミズ
デザイン 北原治貴(ナイロンデザイン事務所)

SHONEN SUNDAY COMICS SPECIAL
小学館
SSCS 4370

鉄楽レトラ

佐原ミズ

TETSUGAKU LETRA
MIZU SAHARA

5

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CHAPTER 18
A SECRET
GIRLFRIEND

3
…

HUAAAH...
MORNING MOM.
GOOD MORNING, NAMARI.
YEAH.
HEY MOM, ONII-CHAN'S BEEN GOING OUT SOMEWHERE EVERY MORNING.
HUH? KIMITAKA IS?
YOU'RE ALREADY AWAKE?
A LITTLE EARLY, AREN'T YOU?
hm?

HE'S TRYING TO BE REALLY DISCREET ABOUT IT
MAYBE
HE'S "SEEING" SOMEONE
DISCREET?
...
?

A SECRET GIRLFRIEND
LET'S SEE...

PLANTAS, TACON,
KICK, AND PLANTAS, TACON AND-
*STEP HEEL
7
TACON!

HUH?
TAKE IT OFF.
YOU CAN'T HEAR THE SOUNDS IF YOU WEAR A HOODIE, YOU FOOL!

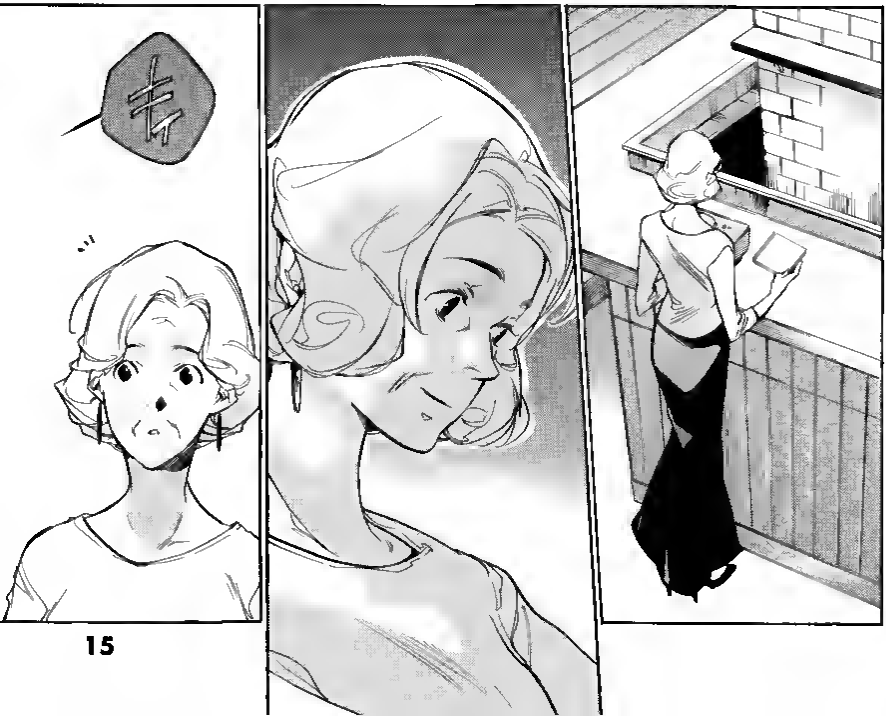
THE SOUND MUST BE UNIFORM!
YOUR FEET WON'T MOVE IN UNISON UNLESS YOU PRACTICE PROPERLY
RIGHT.
LIKE I SAID, YOUR TACON IS TOO WEAK! AND YOUR POSTURE IS BAD! AND YOUR EXPRESSION AS WELL!
AH!
BY THE WAY, KID,
WHICH STUDIO ARE YOU WITH?
HUH?
WHO TOLD YOU TO STOP?! KEEP PRAC-TICING!

UMM... WELL,
I'M BEING TAUGHT BY MORINO -SENSEI.
MORINO?
Y... YES.
AT A STUDIO CALLED "AL ALBA"
HEH...
HEHE HEH...
!

HAHA
HAHA
HAHA!
11
...

AWW...
I LOST AGAIN...
THIS GUY IS REALLY STRONG
REALLY?
THIS BOSS IS SO MUCH HARDER THAN THE PREVIOUS BOSSES
FUHAHA HAHA
Hehe. Reminds me of that lady from yesterday...

al alba
¥300-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I THOUGHT FOR SURE THAT YOU WERE GOING TO KEEP RUNNING AWAY UNTIL YOU WERE DEAD FROM OLD AGE, BUT IT LOOKS LIKE YOU REALLY DID OPEN A STUDIO...
LOOK WHAT WE HAVE HERE...
KAWAUCHI -SENSEI!

!
?
IN TWO MONTHS,
OUR STUDIO IS GOING TO HOLD A PERFOR-MANCE...
WE'RE STILL DECIDING ON THE PROGRAMS, BUT...
GIVEN OUR FAST FRIENDSHIP, I'M WILLING TO GIVE YOU 8 MINUTES IN IT...

I AP-
PRECIATE
THE OFFER,
BUT
OH?
ARE YOU
DECLINING?
YOU ALREADY
OPENED YOUR
TABLAO,
DIDNT YOU?
DO YOU
NOT HAVE
ANY ADEQUATE
PERFORMERS?
I DON'T
INTEND TO USE
MY PERFORMERS
IN SUCH A
FASHION
I THOUGHT
YOU MIGHT HAVE
BEEN LOOKING TO
TRAIN YOUR
PROTEGE, BUT
IT LOOKS LIKE
I WAS A FOOL
TO HAVE ANY
EXPECT-
ATIONS OF
YOU
...
IS THAT
SO?

WELL, NOT THAT IT MATTERS
IF YOU EVER FEEL THE NEED TO GET BACK ON YOUR GRUDGE, YOU CAN CALL ME ANY TIME.
WHO WAS THAT EVIL-LOOKING OLD LADY?
It's that person from yesterday...
A LONG TIME AGO
GRANDMA WAS PART OF A DANCE GROUP WITH KAWAUCHI MIWA-SENSEI
HER PRODUCTIONS WERE FANTASTIC,
BUT SHE WAS QUICK TO TOSS ASIDE STUDENTS WHO WERE NOT UP TO PAR

THE REASON WHY GRANDMA'S KNEES ARE BROKEN
WAS BECAUSE OF HER
MORINO -SENSEI.

THANK YOU,
I'LL SEE YOU TOMORROW.
OH, BY THE WAY...
WE'RE ALL DONE WITH THE CLEANING, SO WE'LL BE ON OUR WAY.
EVERYONE SEEMED TO BE A LITTLE DOWN TODAY...
DID SOMETHING HAPPEN?
N-NOT AT ALL... WE'RE ALL FINE.
WHAT ABOUT YOU, SENSEI? HOW IS YOUR KNEE DOING?
OH? IT'S FINE, THANK YOU
IS THAT WHY EVERYONE LOOKED SO DOWN?

I BELIEVE I WAS AROUND 25 WHEN I FIRST MET HER
SHE HAD SUCH AN AMAZING STAGE PRESENCE
I STILL RESPECT HER EVEN NOW,
AND I'M STILL PROUD OF THE YEARS I SPENT WITH HER
THAT'S WHY EVEN THOUGH I REALIZED THAT I HAD REACHED MY LIMIT,
I COULDN'T HELP BUT BE ENTHRALLED BY HER, AND I COULDN'T STOP MYSELF FROM DANCING
I KNEW WHAT WAS COMING, BUT I KEPT ON GOING
EVEN SO, IF YOU WERE TO ASK ME IF I HAVE ANY REGRETS...

Knowing so, she didn't stop her from dancing...
Kawauchi -sensei was aware that Grandma's knees were getting worse, but...
I WOULD HAVE TO SAY, YES...

I'M HAPPY TO SEE THIS PLACE FILLED WITH YOUR BRIGHT SMILES AS YOU DANCE AND GROW TOGETHER
YOU BOYS SHOULDN'T WORRY YOURSELVES OVER THAT. I'M QUITE HAPPY ENOUGH TO SEE YOU BOYS ENJOY YOURSELVES

Grandma chose Sensei and their performance together over her own health.

But Sensei wasn't willing to choose Grandma's health over her own selfish aspirations.
YOU CAN WORRY ABOUT WHETHER YOU WANT TO CONTINUE DANCING AS LONG AS YOU ARE HAVING FUN NOW.

23
She...
She's not here...

TACON!

I DON'T LIKE PEOPLE WHO DON'T LEARN FROM THEIR MISTAKES
U-UM...
YOU DON'T HAVE TO MIND ME...
!
THOSE SHOES DON'T SUIT YOU AT ALL

LET ME TELL YOU SOME-THING
I WANT TO LEAVE BEHIND MY KNOWLEDGE OF DANCING TO THIS WORLD
BUT YOU'RE WEARING THEM BECAUSE
YOU WANT TO MAKE THEM YOURS, RIGHT?
YOU WANT TO DANCE,
AND I NEED A PERSON TO HELP ME LEAVE BEHIND MY LEGACY
WHY DO YOU HESITATE?
IT SOUNDS REASONABLE, DOESN'T IT?
26
WHY WOULD I NEED TO DO THAT?
NO ONE'S FORCED INTO IT, AND WE BOTH BENEFIT
Y-YOU SAY YOU WANT TO HELP, BUT
DOES THAT MEAN YOU WOULD BEAR THE RESPONSI-BILITY FOR THAT PERSON'S FUTURE?

SHE GAVE YOU HER UNCONDITIONAL TRUST
BUT WHY DID YOU KEEP PUSHING HER DESPITE KNOWING THAT?
YES, I DID THINK SO
DID YOU THINK THAT MORINO-SENSEI WAS GOOD AT WHAT SHE DOES?
IF THE WHOLE WORLD OPERATED UNDER SUCH NAIVE CONCEPTIONS, NOTHING WOULD EVER GET ACCOMPLISHED
IT WAS THANKS TO MY UTMOST DEVOTION TO THE ART THAT WE WERE ABLE TO CREATE SUCH WONDROUS WORKS
YES, THAT'S RIGHT I ONLY NEED PEOPLE WHO ARE CAPABLE OF HELPING ME ACHIEVE MY GOALS
ANY LESS WILL NOT SUFFICE
NO...
?

I DON'T WANT TO LEARN FROM SOMEONE LIKE YOU.
NO MATTER HOW GOOD YOU ARE, I WON'T.
NO MATTER HOW EFFECTIVE YOUR METHODS MIGHT BE, I PREFER MORINO-SENSEI.
SILENCE!
YOU IN-SOLENT PUP! YOU NEVER LEARN, DO YOU?!
JUST WHAT IS YOUR PRECIOUS MORINO-SENSEI TEACHING YOU?
STILL WEARING YOUR STUPID HOODIE.
I TOLD YOU NOT TO PRACTICE LIKE THAT!
DON'T TELL ME THAT SHE TOLD YOU TO SIMPLY ENJOY DANCING, DID SHE?
YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO ACHIEVE ANY-THING LIKE THAT

IF YOU'RE SO PROUD OF YOUR TEACHER, SHOW ME WHAT SHE TAUGHT YOU!
IF YOU CAN'T DO THAT, DON'T EVEN THINK ABOUT SAYING NO TO ME EVER AGAIN!

GO ON, SHOW ME!
SHOW ME HOW YOU DANCE!
SHOW ME!

OH, GOOD MORNING, NAMARI
DO YOU WANT BREAKFAST?
MOM...
?
WHAT'S WRONG?

HM?
HUH? WHY?
YOU SAID ONII-CHAN MIGHT HAVE A SECRET GIRLFRIEND, RIGHT?
BUT I DON'T THINK WE SHOULD PRY ABOUT IT.

BECAUSE
IT LOOKS LIKE HE WAS DUMPED ALREADY...

CHAPTER 19

BIG BOSS LET'S GO!

AH...
I LOST
AGAIN!

ICHINOSE -KUN,
I REALLY CAN'T BEAT THIS BOSS
GU HAHA HAHA
WHY DON'T WE TRY TAKING HIM ON TOGETHER?
I'M PRETTY SURE MY BROTHER HAD THE SAME GAME, SO I CAN BORROW IT IF YOU WANT TO PLAY TOGETHER
...

REALLY? THAT'D BE AWESOME...
I DON'T THINK I CAN DO IT ON MY OWN...
DO YOU WANT IN, ICHINOSE-KUN?
!!!
O... OKAY
I CAN LEND YOU MY SISTER'S GAME SYSTEM IF YOU WANT TO PLAY TOGETHER WITH US
LET'S FINISH CLEANING UP HERE
WE SHOULD HEAD OUT FOR OUR LESSON SOON
RIGHT
UH GUYS...
I THINK I MIGHT BE SICK...
I'LL PASS FOR TODAY...

HUH?! ARE YOU ALRIGHT?
YE YEAH, TELL MORINO -SENSEI I WASN'T FEELING WELL
...

IF YOU THINK YOU KNOW WHAT'S GOOD, THEN SHOW ME WHAT YOU'VE GOT!
YOU SPOUT SUCH NONSENSE, AND YET YOU CAN'T SHOW ME A SINGLE THING. YOU'RE ALL TALK AND NO SHOW!
BUT ALL HE DOES IS PREACH US ABOUT HOW WE'RE DOING IT WRONG.
IT'S NOT LIKE HE'S EVEN GOOD AT BASKETBALL.
REALLY... WHAT AN ANNOYING GUY...

OH!
WELCOME HOME, KIMITAKA! YOU'RE EARLIER THAN USUAL.
...

START MOVING THOSE LEGS AND SHOW ME WHAT YOU'VE GOT!
COME ON!
WHAT, CAN'T DO IT?
YOU THINK YOU CAN DEFY ME WHEN YOU CAN'T EVEN DO A SINGLE STEP?
YOU'RE SUCH A PATHETIC KID.
I'LL TELL YOU SOMETHING GOOD...

YOU SPIT ON THE FACE OF YOUR PRECIOUS TEACHER THROUGH YOUR INCOMPETENCE.
WHENEVER YOU LET OUT YOUR TERRIBLE TAPPING.
I'M JEALOUS THAT YOU CAN GIVE UP SO EASILY.
WHAT'S THIS? RUNNING AWAY WHEN YOU'RE FACED WITH SOMETHING DIFFICULT?
!!!
!
YOU AREN'T GOOD ENOUGH FOR THOSE RED SHOES. THROW THEM AWAY ALREADY!

GO! GO! YOU CAN DO IT! ONE MORE TIME!
GRAMPA! I'M TELLING YOU TO STOP!
GRAMPA! STOP IT!
QUIT IT!!
OW!

Oh no~
WHAT WAS THAT FOR?...
GRAMPA!
GIVE ME BACK MY MEGAPHONE ALREADY!
I NEED IT TO CHEER THEM ON IN THEIR GAME!
I REALLY NEED IT FOR THE MATCH TOMORROW!
MOM! MOM!! MOM!!!
WAS THAT NAMARI'S MEGAPHONE?
WAS

HUH?
LET ME THINK... I THINK IT'S IN THE CUPBOARD UNDER THE STAIRS...
THE GLUE! WHERE IS THE GLUE!?

DING DONG

?
Grampa!
Go find it!
Quick!

KIMITAKA, A GUEST IS HERE TO SEE YOU

YES, WHO IS IT?

HUH?
ICHIKAWA -KUN!

HOW'RE YOU FEELING?
UH
YEAH, I FEEL BETTER

GOOD AFTER-NOON!

YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO GO OUT OF YOUR WAY
THANKS...

THERE IS A HERBAL STORE I OFTEN VISIT BECAUSE I GET SICK FROM EATING TOO MUCH

I STOPPED BY AND GOT YOU SOME MEDICINE FROM THERE. I CAN'T SAY IT TASTES ANY GOOD, BUT IT WORKS GREAT SO TRY SOME

WHEN YOU'RE FEELING BETTER,
LET'S GO TAKE OUR LESSONS TOGETHER
...
/n1

UGK
So bitter...
WA...
WATER...
WATER...
Who was it?
...
KIMITAKA, YOU HAVE ANOTHER GUEST.
DING DONG

KI...
KIKUCHI-KUN!?
SUP.

THIS IS A PRECIOUS TREASURE OF MINE,
BUT IF YOU'RE NOT FEELING WELL, I'LL LET YOU USE IT.
HOW'RE YOU FEELING?
I'M FEELING FINE.

UH...
THANKS.

WHEN YOU'RE FEELING BETTER,
LET'S GO SEE MORINO -SENSEI AGAIN.
...
トサッ

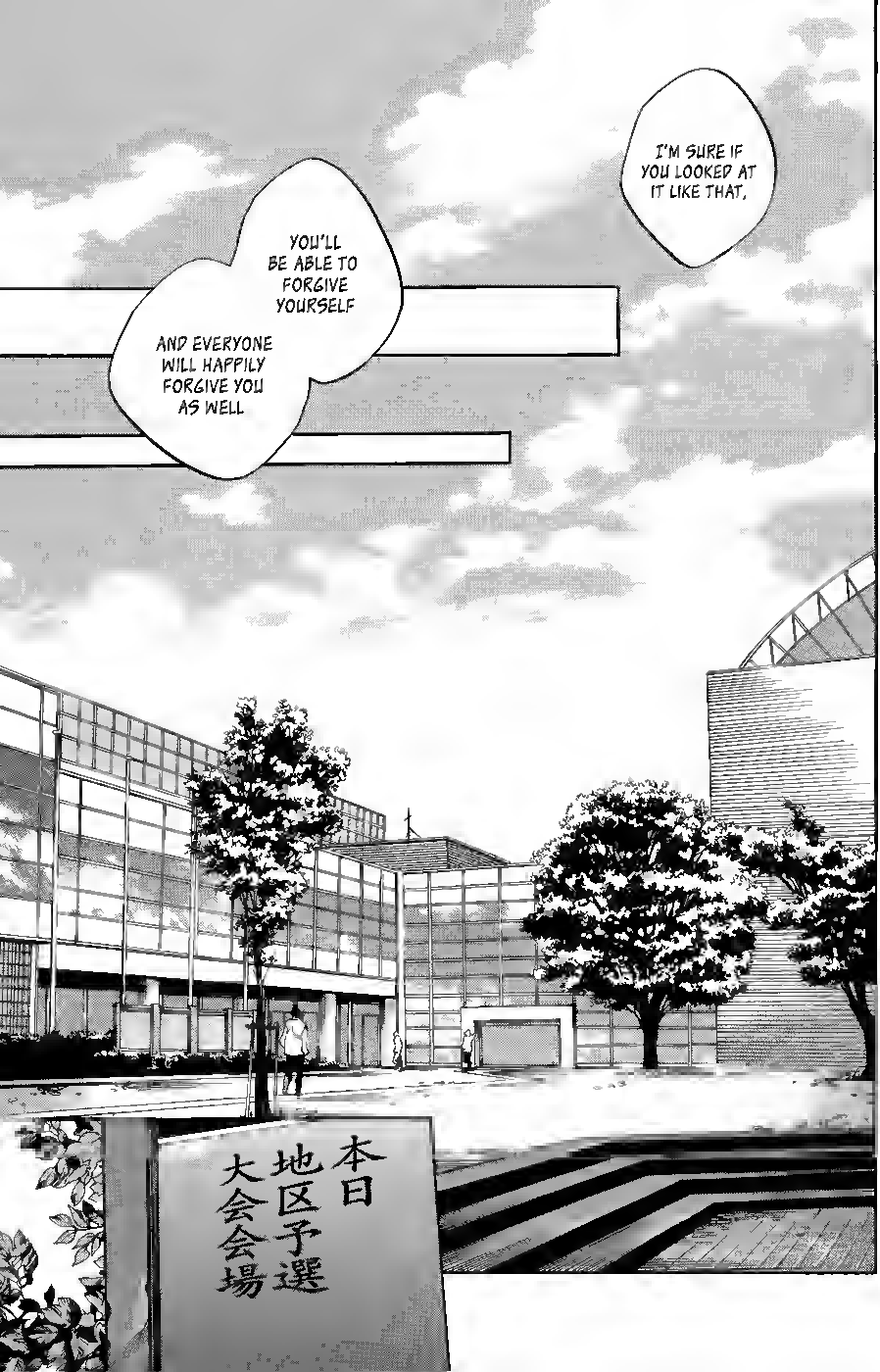
MY BIG LOVER

Wha?
MOM!!! BIG TROUBLE!! ONII-CHAN'S BECOMING A WEIRDO!
AH! GRAMPA BROKE MY MEGAPHONE!
...
NAMARI -CHAN, I'M SORRY.

OUR BASKETBALL CLUB IS IN THE MIDDLE PARTICIPATING IN THE REGIONAL QUALIFIERS YOU HAVE NO IDEA HOW IMPORTANT THIS IS
THEY ONLY NEED ONE MORE WIN TO GET TO THE NEXT BRACKET OF QUALIFIERS!
MY CLUB HAS TO BRING OUR BEST TO CHEER THEM ON!
I CAN'T HAVE YOU GUYS GOOFING OFF AND RUINING EVERYTHING FOR ME!
Y... YES...
WE'RE SORRY...
Hm!
I WON'T BE TALKING TO YOU GUYS UNTIL THIS IS ALL OVER.
Grampa is sorry!
Go away!
PFFF-

HAHA HA,
WHAT'S WITH HER BREASTS?
I DON'T KNOW WHAT HAPPENED, BUT
YOU'VE BECOME SO LIVELY
UNLIKE BEFORE, EVEN IF YOU'RE FEELING DOWN
YOU AREN'T RUNNING AWAY AND HIDING IN YOUR BEDSHEETS LIKE YOU USED TO.

YOU'VE EVEN MADE FRIENDS WHO ARE WILLING TO SUPPORT YOU DURING YOUR WORST TIMES
LOOKS LIKE YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO RUN AWAY FROM EVERYTHING SO EASILY THIS TIME
YOU MIGHT AS WELL TRY AND LOOK A FOOL
RATHER THAN BE THE FOOL WHO NEVER TRIED.


I'M SURE IF YOU LOOKED AT IT LIKE THAT,
YOU'LL BE ABLE TO FORGIVE YOURSELF
AND EVERYONE WILL HAPPILY FORGIVE YOU AS WELL
本日
地区予選
大会会場

AH~
SAKURA NOMIYA IS REALLY UNDER PRESSURE NOW
AT THIS STAGE OF THE GAME, THERE'S NO WAY THEY CAN CATCH UP
052
4
031

...
FUJI-
MOTO!

OH!
THAT KID GOT THE REBOUND AND SCORED ALL ON HER OWN!
H...h...
SHE DOESN'T GIVE UP, DOES SHE?

UM...
HELLO, MORINO SENSEI?
IT'S ICHINOSE
Y YES
I'M FEELING FINE
OH HELLO, ICHINOSE -SAN
ARE YOU FEELING BETTER?
UM... ACTUALLY...
I'LL DEFINITELY BE COMING FOR LESSONS TOMORROW
I won't stand for it anymore...

I'LL SEE YOU THEN. PLEASE TAKE CARE.
I won't give up so easily like before...

SHIT!
MY HEAL ISN'T GOING TO MAKE IT ON TIME!
30
MORE DPS, ICHINOSE -KUN!
OKAY!
SHIELD UP ICHIKAWA -KUN!
RIGHT!
BUOOO...
WE WON'T GO DOWN WITHOUT A FIGHT! ICHINOSE -KUN, ATTACK!
O... OKAY.
AH! WE'RE GOING TO WIPE!
CRAP!
THAT BREATH ATTACK HURTS!

OH SHIT, WE DID IT...
AH.
DOGAAN
NO WAY, WE DID IT...
WINN
Haha, thanks...
WE WON
WE FINALLY GOT IT!
!

HEY GUYS...
HM?
TO BE HONEST, I...
THERE IS A BOSS I WANT TO BEAT TOO,
WON'T YOU HELP ME OUT?
OF COURSE!

YEAH...
ABOUT THAT...
SO?
WHO'S THE BOSS?

MY, MY
I DIDN'T THINK YOU'D SHOW YOUR FACE HERE AGAIN.

WHAT'S THIS?
WERE YOU TOO SCARED TO COME ALONE?
おいっ ずるーい
YOU'RE RIGHT.
MY, AREN'T YOU HONEST
HAVE YOU FINALLY ADMITTED YOUR POWERLESSNESS AND COME TO BEG ME FOR HELP?
I STILL DON'T WANT TO LEARN FROM YOU!
I ADMIT THAT I'M NOT VERY GOOD
BUT...

WITH MY FRIENDS' HELP, I'LL COME FACE YOU AGAIN.
THAT'S WHY I WILL COME SEE YOU AGAIN WHEN I AM READY
I'LL SHOW YOU THAT MY CHOICE WASN'T WRONG.
I PROMISE THAT I WILL COME AGAIN TO PROVE YOU WRONG!

THERE IS A PROGRAM I'M PLANNING RIGHT NOW.
I HAVEN'T DECIDED WHO TO USE FOR THE LAST EIGHT MINUTES.
HUH?
WHEN?
I DON'T HAVE MUCH TIME, YOU KNOW
PLEASE MAKE IT BY NEXT MONTH.
HOWEVER!
THERE ARE PLENTY OF PEOPLE WHO WANT THIS SPOT IN THE PROGRAM
IF YOU MANAGE TO WIN THIS SPOT, I'LL ACCEPT DEFEAT.
IF YOU WISH IT.
MORINO SENSEI
I'LL EVEN APOLOGIZE TO YOUR PRECIOUS

HOW ABOUT IT?
!
WILL
WILL YOU GUYS
HELP ME DO THIS?

ぐっ
ぐっ
YEAH!
LET'S DO IT!
BIG BOSS!

CHAPTER 20
AND NOW,
INTRODUCING...

KIKUCHI

LEVEL ---------- 1
VISUAL ---------- 3
FLAMENCO SKILL -- 1

EQUIPMENT: NONE

NOTES: FIERY BREATH

KIMITAKA

LEVEL ---------- 1
VISUAL ---------- 1
FLAMENCO SKILL -- 2

EQUIPMENT: RED SHOES

NOTES: SECRETLY WISHES TO MEET A CERTAIN SOMEONE

ICHIKAWA

LEVEL ---------- 1
VISUAL ---------- 1
FLAMENCO SKILL -- 1

EQUIPMENT: GUITAR

NOTES: RECENTLY HEART BROKEN

ALERGIAS
Y CANTINAS
...

GRANDMA, ARE YOUR KNEES OKAY?
YOU SHOULDN'T PUSH YOURSELF TOO HARD...
NONSENSE!
I CAN'T JUST SIT IDLE WHEN EVERYONE'S BEEN TRYING SO HARD!
THE SONG HASN'T BEEN DECIDED YET, BUT I'VE BEEN ENTRUSTED WITH A PERFORMANCE
I CAN'T LET THEM DOWN! I HAVE TO TRY MY BEST!
...

ドドド

TH... THAT WAS SCARY
THEY MOVED IN UNISON LIKE THEY WERE SOLDIERS OR SOMETHING...
COME ON, IT'S JUST A MOVIE
THIS IS A THEATRE FILM THAT KAWAUCHI -SENSEI MADE SOME TIME AGO
I WANT TO SHOW YOU GUYS JUST WHAT YOU'RE GETTING YOURSELVES INTO.

BUT MAKE SURE YOU KEEP THIS A SECRET FROM GRANDMA
I DREW THAT. PRETTY GOOD, HUH?
BOSS
BOSS
Defeat Kawauchi!
Hp 16~ ???
RIGHT! AND IF WE'RE LUCKY AND DO WELL
IT WOULD BE AN AWESOME SURPRISE TOO
FIRSTLY, EVEN IF YOU GUYS DROP OUT OF THE PRELIMINARY SELECTIONS, SHE WON'T BE SAD KNOWING YOU FAILED
THERE ARE A FEW REASONS WHY I WANT TO KEEP THIS A SECRET
I DON'T THINK THAT'S LIKELY
AREN'T THE QUALIFIERS IN TWO MONTHS?

WE REALLY WANT TO TRY REGARDLESS OF OUR CHANCES PLEASE, WON'T YOU LET US DO THIS?
DON'T DISCOURAGE ICHINOSE-KUN FROM DOING THIS, I BEG YOU...
WHAT DO YOU MEAN? I'VE LEVELED FROM 1 TO 99 IN ONE MONTH BEFORE
COME TO THINK OF IT, WHAT ABOUT THE SONGS?
I SPENT SOME TIME GOING THROUGH SOME SONGS, BUT...
I DON'T REALLY UNDERSTAND THEM WELL ENOUGH TO REALLY PICK ANYTHING
IT'S NOT LIKE YOU DECIDE TO LIKE A SONG
BASED OFF OF EVERY LITTLE DETAIL YOU KNOW ABOUT IT, RIGHT?
IT'S TOTALLY FINE TO PICK SONGS JUST BASED ON INTUITION.

WHAT KIND OF SONGS DOES MORINO -SENSEI LIKE?
.....
I SEE...
LET'S SEE...
I THINK SHE LISTENS TO ALEGRIAS OFTEN...
IS ALEGRIAS AN UPBEAT TYPE OF SONG?
SHE PERFORMED TO IT ONCE BACK WHEN SHE WAS WORKING WITH KAWAUCHI -SENSEI.
IT SHOULD BE HERE...
YEP.
HERE IT IS.

WOW
THIS IS WHAT
SENSEI WAS LIKE
BACK THEN?
SHE
WAS REALLY
CUTE
...

IN MOST CASES,
ALEGRIAS SONGS ARE OF HAPPINESS AND BEAUTY ABOUT ONE'S HOME.
THEY'RE QUITE COMMON IN FLAMENCOS.
REALLY...
10
.....
I WANT TO BE LIKE THAT.
WHAT KIND OF HAPPINESS IS IT FOR HER TO SMILE LIKE THAT?
BUT HONESTLY,
SENSEI LOOKS SO HAPPY HERE.

THINGS LIKE BEAUTY OF ONE'S HOMETOWN OR ANYTHING LIKE THAT IS TOTALLY BEYOND ME.
RIGHT...
WELL, FIRST THINGS FIRST. LET'S MEET UP TOMORROW AND CHECK OUT THE CDS AGAIN
IF IT'S HAPPINESS FROM HAVING FAMILY AND FRIENDS, I CAN UNDERSTAND, BUT...
11
.....

CLACK
CLACK
KRUK
Were those pebbles?
?
...
Nails...?

This is bad...
Oh no...

は、
は、
は、
ICHINOSE -KUN
YOU SHOULDN'T WORRY TOO MUCH, I'M SURE MORINO-SENSEI CAN FIX IT FOR YOU
14
ピンポーン
el alba

DAMN IT!
!

HOW VEXING...

...
OH MY!

DON'T WORRY, IT'S NOTHING TOO UNCOMMON
IT CAN BE FIXED IN NO TIME!
THE NAILS HAVE COME LOOSE, I SEE...
PHEW...
AIN'T THAT GREAT, ICHINOSE -KUN!
YOU WERE SO WORRIED, YOU LOOKED LIKE YOU WERE ABOUT TO CRY!

SENSEI, IS THIS ALEGRIAS?
YES, THAT'S RIGHT.
SENSEI, DO YOU LIKE THIS SONG?

YES...
IT'S A BIT EMBARASSING TO SAY, BUT I LIKE TO LISTEN TO THIS WHEN I WANT TO CHEER MYSELF UP.

AH...
DO YOU KNOW HOW AN ALEGRIAS IS STRUCTURED?
AFTER THE SILENCIO OF THE SECOND HALF, THE SUBIDA RAISES THE TEMPO, LEADING INTO THE BULERIAS
ALEGRIAS
THE SONG'S MEANINGS ARE OF HAPPY THINGS, BUT...
BASICALLY, THE SONG GETS MORE FORCEFUL AND THE TEMPO INCREASES IN THE SECOND HALF.
FOR THE DANCER, IT'S KIND OF LIKE A SONG OF WILL AND ENDURANCE

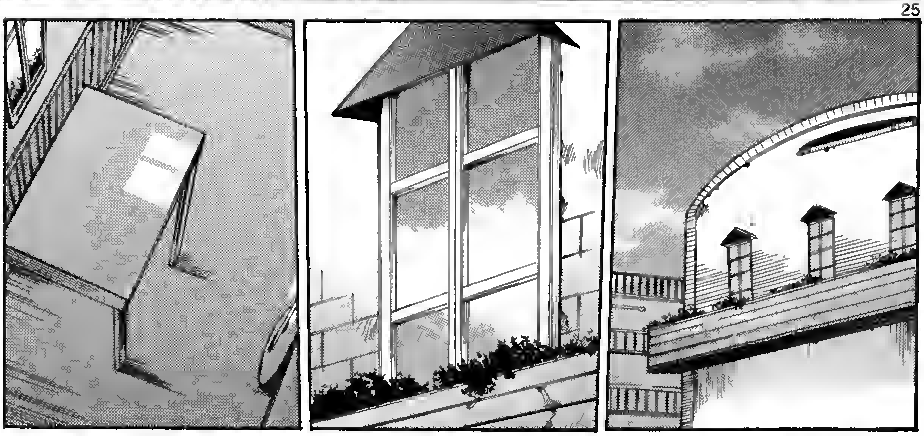
YOU NEED TO HIDE YOUR EXHAUSTION, LOOK FORWARD, AND SMILE
IT'S EASY TO LET YOUR EMOTIONS SHOW WHEN YOU ARE HURTING, BUT
THIS SONG DOESN'T ALLOW FOR SUCH LEISURE..

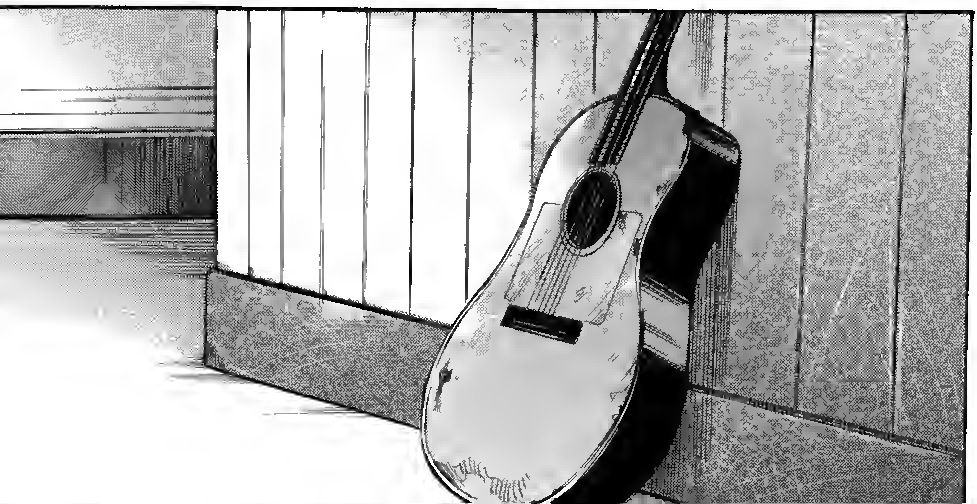
I'LL GO GET IT, WAIT HERE
NOW, WHILE YOUR SHOE IS BEING REPAIRED,
I'LL LET YOU BORROW MY HUSBAND'S
THANK YOU...

IT'D BE NICE IF EVERYTHING IN THE WORLD CAN BE FIXED SO EASILY
...
22
I REALLY HOPE WE WIN...
ALEGRIAS DE CANTINAS
IF WE DANCE TO ALEGRIAS AND BEAT KAWAUCHI -SENSEI...
I WONDER IF SHE WILL START VIEWING THIS SONG WITH A HAPPIER TONE...

ME TOO!
23
IF WE WERE IN A GAME, WE'D ONLY BE LEVEL 1 ..
WE'VE GOT TO MAKE SURE WE GIVE IT OUR BEST .
BUT EVEN SIDE CHARACTERS CAN BECOME STRONG IF YOU LEVEL THEM UP
WE MIGHT BECOME AMAZING BY NEXT MONTH IF WE REALLY TRY

IT MIGHT BE THE MOST FITTING WAY TO BEAT THE BOSS.
WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO, ICHINOSE -KUN?
DO YOU WANT TO USE ALEGRIAS FOR OUR PERFORMANCE?
YEAH





IT'S ONLY BEEN A WEEK, BUT
WE'VE COME A LONG WAY...
I'M SURE THEY'RE HARD AT WORK...
MY MY
YOU'RE A MESS TOO, ICHIKAWA -KUN
ICHIKAWA
LEVEL 25
VISUAL 17
FLAMENCO SKILL -- 20
EQUIPMENT GUITAR
NOTES UNREQUITED LOVE? LONG FORGOTTEN
WELL..
ARE YOU OKAY? YOUR FINGER NAILS ARE CHIPPED
IT'S OKAY IT WON'T REALLY SHOW WITH THE MANICURE ON
NAKAZAWA -SENSEI TOLD ME I STILL HAVE A LONG WAY TO GO..

KIKUCHI
LEVEL---------- 24
VISUAL--------- -15
FLAMENCO SKILL-- 18
EQUIPMENT: SOMETIMES, A SURGICAL MASK
NOTES: KAMEHAMEHA FROM THE MOUTH
I'VE FINISHED RINSING MY MOUTH.
SENSEI
THANK GOODNESS
WELL WELL,
AREN'T YOU A MESS TOO
I REALLY LIKE THE MOUTH RINSE THAT SENSEI MAKES BECAUSE IT ISN'T BITTER AT ALL
MAKE SURE YOU WEAR A MASK ALL THE TIME, EVEN WHEN YOU'RE AT HOME

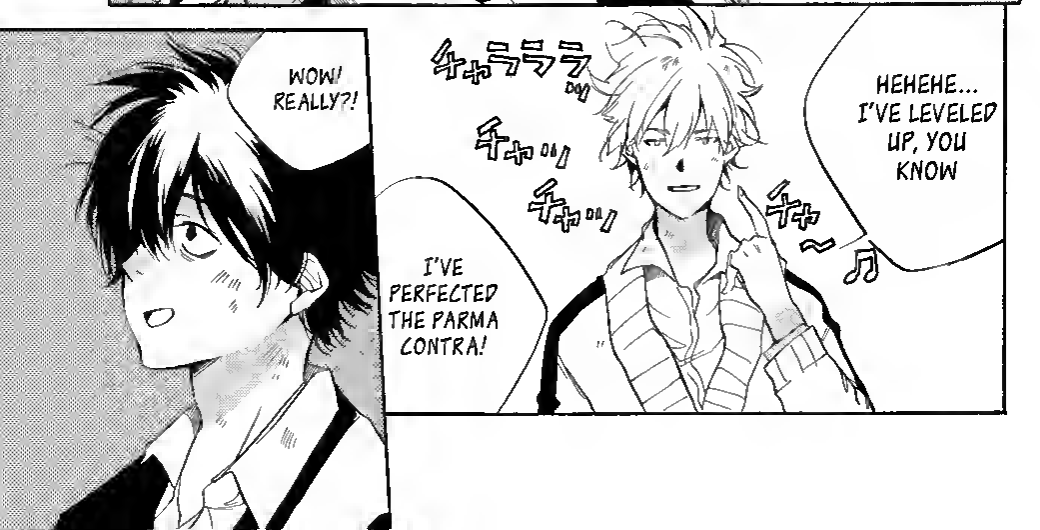
GOOD MORNING, SENSEI
KIMITAKA
LEVEL---------- 26
VISUAL--------- -18
FLAMENCO SKILL-- 21
EQUIPMENT RED SHOES
NOTES: STILL SECRETLY HOPES TO MEET A CERTAIN SOMEONE
I'M SORRY I'M LATE...
OH NO, NOT YOU TOO...

YOU MUST BE CAREFUL ABOUT YOUR HEALTH, EVEN IF YOU'RE TRYING YOUR BEST
YES...

OH, THAT'S RIGHT!
YOUR SHOES ARE FINALLY FIXED!
REALLY? THANK YOU SO MUCH!

I'LL BRING IT OUT RIGHT NOW
THANK YOU
HAHA, ICHINOSE-KUN YOU'RE A MESS
YOU'RE SKIPPING SLEEP TO PRACTICE, AREN'T YOU?

SPEAK FOR YOURSELF WHAT'S WITH YOUR VOICE?
ICHIKAWA -KUN'S A MESS TOO


HEHEHE... I'VE LEVELED UP, YOU KNOW
チャラララ♪
チャ♪!
チャ♪!
チャ～♫
I'VE PERFECTED THE PARMA CONTRA!
WOW! REALLY?!

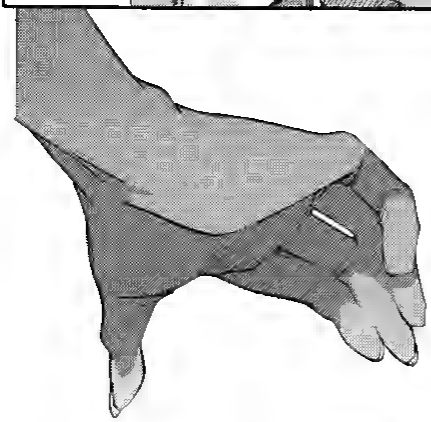
BUT YOU KNOW..
ME TOO!
I CAN PLAY RASGUEADO NOW!
YOU TOO? YOU GUYS ARE AMAZING ..
WE GOT STRONGER AND LEVELED UP AND EVERY-THING, BUT
WHY DO WE STILL LOOK LIKE LOWBIES?
IT'S KIND OF LIKE
WE FO-CUSED ON ONE THING TOO MUCH, SO OTHER STATS WENT DOWN IN COMPARISON
WE WERE TOTALLY OBLIVIOUS TO IT UNTIL NOW
RATHER, DIDN'T WE BECOME EVEN MORE PATHETIC LOOKING?
This isn't a game you know...

THAT'S NOT TRUE
MAN...
モテない
DOES THAT MEAN WE'RE GOING TO LOOK EVEN MORE PATHETIC AS WE GET BETTER?
HERE YOU GO, ICHINOSE-KUN
THANK YOU VERY MUCH, SENSEI
YOU MIGHT THINK YOU LOOK A MESS, BUT
TO MY EYES, ALL I SEE ARE THREE WONDERFUL AND SHINING BOYS

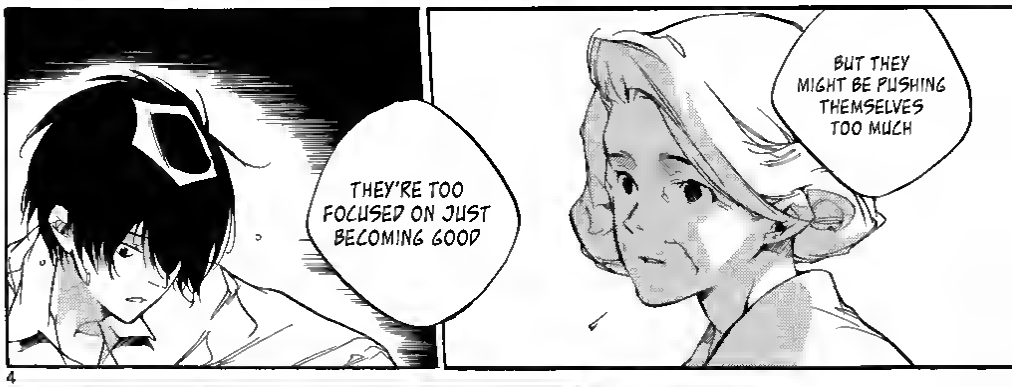
NOW,
LET'S GET ON WITH OUR PRACTICE

33
OKAY...

CHAPTER 21
TO FAIL IS TO LEARN



THEY'VE STILL GOT A LONG WAY TO GO, BUT THEY'VE REALLY COME A LONG WAY...
THEY SURE DID


BUT THEY MIGHT BE PUSHING THEMSELVES TOO MUCH
THEY'RE TOO FOCUSED ON JUST BECOMING GOOD

4

THEY'RE HAVING FUN, AREN'T THEY? LET'EM DO AS THEY WANT
EFFORTS DON'T ALWAYS BEAR FRUIT, AND IF THAT HAPPENS...
BUT THEY MIGHT BE GETTING TOO IMMERSED INTO IT

I DON'T WANT TO SEE THEM GO THROUGH THE SAME EXPERIENCE AS I'VE HAD
WOW
THANK YOU VERY MUCH, MORINO SENSEI
THERE WE GO
IT'S FINISHED, ICHIKAWA-KUN
YOUR FINGERNAILS ARE SUCH A MESS...
YOU'VE GOT TO TAKE BETTER CARE OF THEM

SAME GOES TO YOU, KIKUCHI-KUN! ARE YOU TAKING GOOD CARE OF YOUR THROAT?
NONSENSE! YOU HAVE A STRONG AND WONDERFUL VOICE!
IT'S ALRIGHT, SENSEI
I'VE ALWAYS HAD A GRUFF VOICE ANYHOW
DON'T SPEAK ILL OF IT, SENSEI! IS VERY FOND OF YOUR VOICE, YOU KNOW!

6

AND YOU, ICHINOSE-SAN!
COME OVER HERE!

UMM
COME ON!
WHA

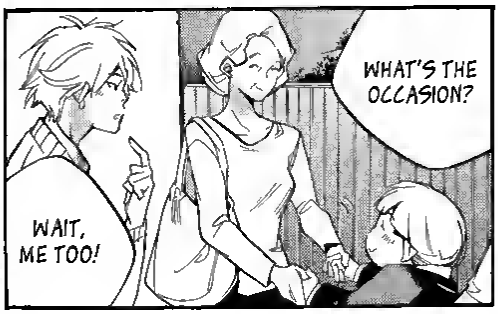
LET'S GET THAT STERILIZED BEFORE IT GETS BAD
YOU DON'T HAVE TO PUSH YOURSELF THAT HARD
HONESTLY...
7
BUT...
IT'S JUST SO FUN...
BEING TOGETHER WITH SENSEI, AND EVERYONE
AND ALL THE TIME WE SPEND TOGETHER...

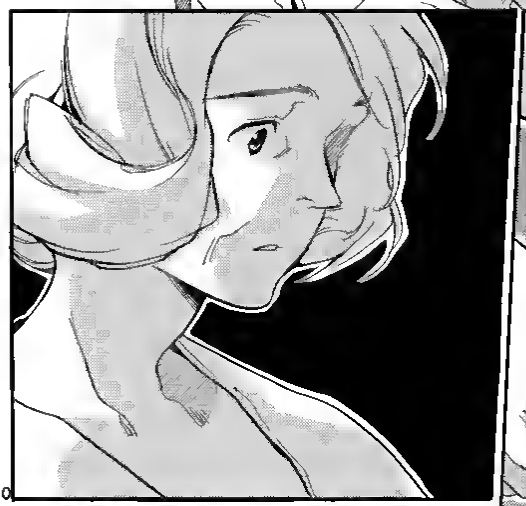
Some people are flawed and weak, and never get a chance to stand out
Despite that, I believe that everyone has their own worth in some way
THAT'S WHY I WANT TO SHINE BRILLIANTLY
THIS KIND OF PAIN IS NOTHING
EVEN IF WE END UP FAILING
I'M MORE AFRAID OF GIVING UP AND WASTING MY EFFORTS BEFORE I EVEN GET TO THAT POINT

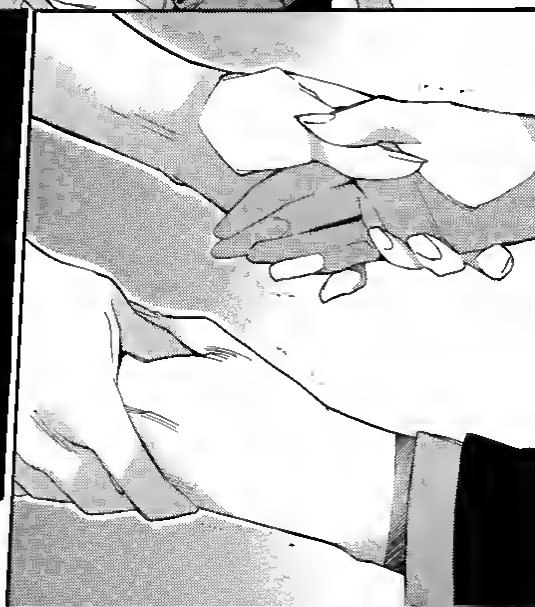
ALRIGHT EVERYONE, BE CAREFUL ON YOUR WAY HOME
I'LL SEE YOU ALL TOMORROW!
UMM
ABOUT TOMORROW...
OH, IS THAT SO...?
SO WE WON'T BE ABLE TO COME TOMORROW...
RIGHT, THERE IS AN EVENT TOMORROW AT SCHOOL
.....
THEN I'LL SEE YOU BOYS THE DAY AFTER TOMORROW

AH
ME TOO

HUH?
SAY, SENSEI, MAY I ASK YOU FOR A HANDSHAKE?


WHAT'S THE OCCASION?
WAIT, ME TOO!

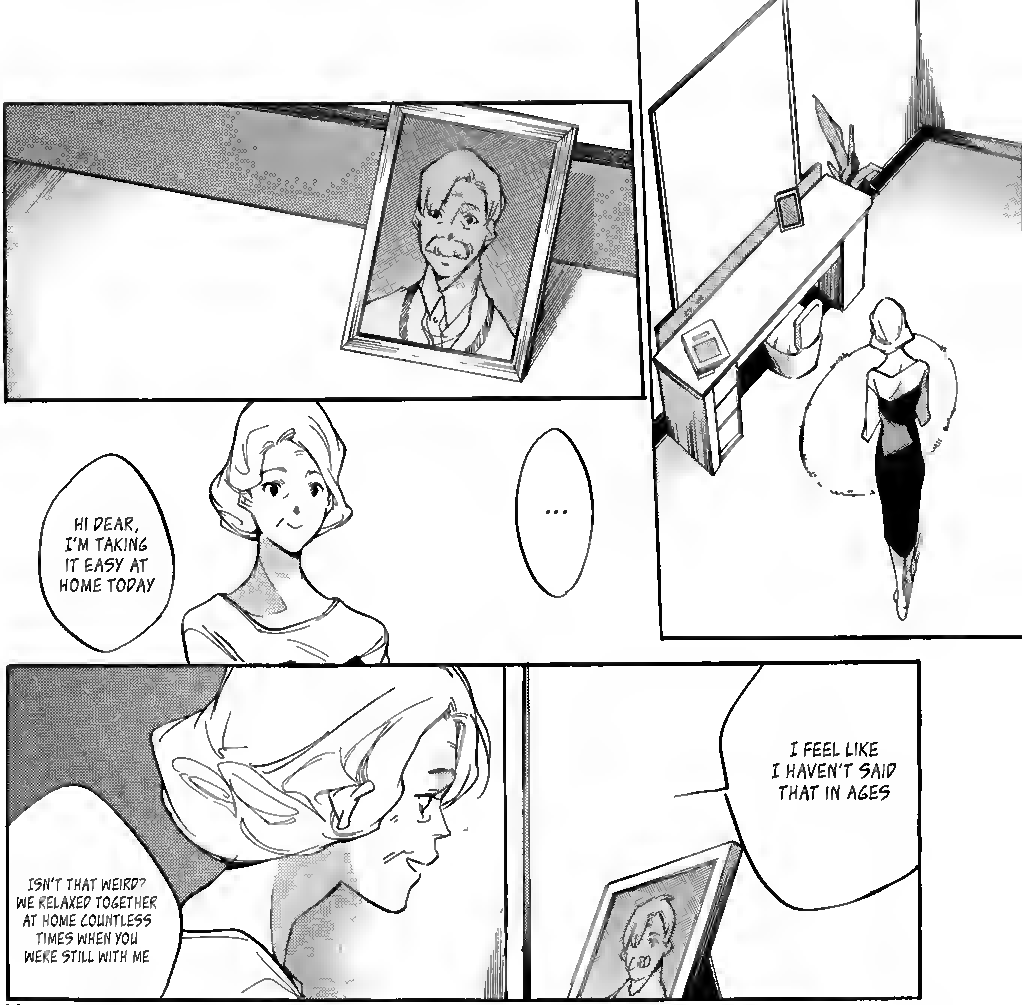




WELL THEN, WE'RE OFF
SEE YOU SOON, SENSEI
.....

MORINO

I'M GOING OUT, SO WATCH THE HOUSE FOR ME
MOM
SURE, DEAR
IS TAKASHI GONE FOR HIS LESSONS?
13
OH, THAT BOY
HE'S BEEN OUT SINCE MORNING
SOMETHING ABOUT BORROWING CLOTHES FOR A FLAMENCO OR SOME SUCH
.....


HI DEAR, I'M TAKING IT EASY AT HOME TODAY
...
ISN'T THAT WEIRD? WE RELAXED TOGETHER AT HOME COUNTLESS TIMES WHEN YOU WERE STILL WITH ME
I FEEL LIKE I HAVEN'T SAID THAT IN AGES

14

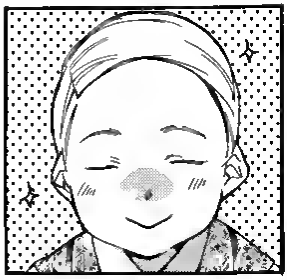
BUT I DON'T REALLY UNDERSTAND THEIR FEELINGS
A THREE MAN PERFORMANCE AT A TABLAO
ICHINOSE-SAN, ICHIKAWA-KUN, AND KIKUCHI-KUN, ALL TOGETHER
THEY'RE REALLY TRYING THEIR BEST

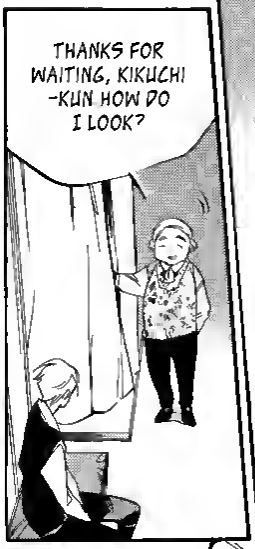
I OFTEN THINK ABOUT HOW I SHOULD TELL THEM TO STOP AND GO LIVE THEIR LIVES AS YOUNG BOYS, BUT
I'M BEING SO CONTRADICTORY, AREN'T I?
THEY COULD HAVE LIVED A LIFE WITHOUT REPEATING THE SAME MISTAKES THAT I MADE
I SHOULD HAVE TRIED TO CONVINCE THEM OUT OF IT, BUT THEY SEEMED SO HAPPY
THEY HAD SO MANY DIFFERENT CHOICES IN FRONT OF THEM

KAWAUCHI MIO STUDIO
RECRUITING FOR THEATRICAL PLAYS
SCREENING LOCATION
EXHIBITION DATE

THURSDAY, HUH...
THAT'S TODAY, ISN'T IT...

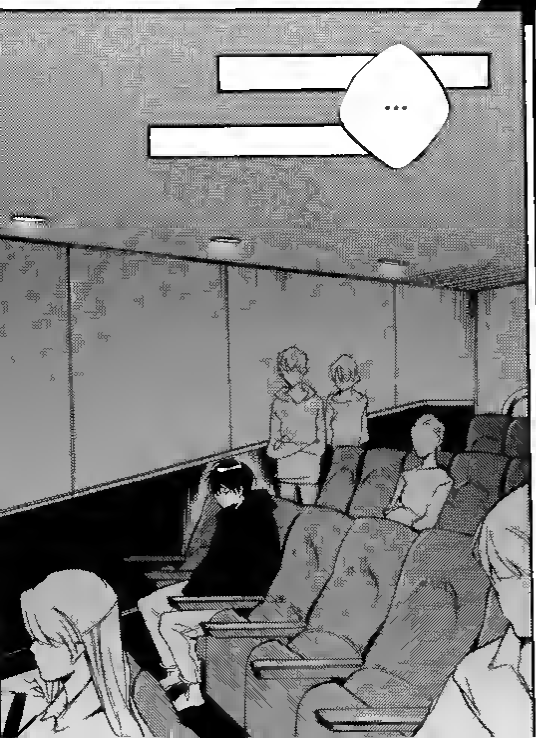
KAWAUCHI MIO STUDIO
THEATRE PERFORMER SCREENING LOCATION LOCATED IN B1



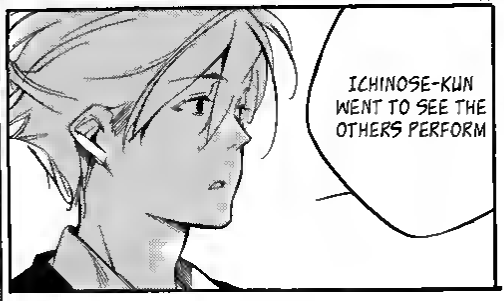

THANKS FOR WAITING, KIKUCHI -KUN HOW DO I LOOK?

I'M SO NERVOUS THAT I FEEL LIKE CRAP

YOU LOOK SO GREAT THAT IT CALMS MY SOUL
Hahn~
Huh?


...

ICHINOSE-SAN, PLEASE COME CHANGE YOUR CLOTHES!


ICHINOSE-KUN WENT TO SEE THE OTHERS PERFORM

They're really good...
WE'RE TAKING A 10 MINUTE BREAK, I'M GOING TO GO FOR A SMOKE
YES...
WHAT DID YOU THINK, KAWAUCHI SENSEI
...I'M NOT IMPRESSED

I'M IMPRESSED THAT YOU CAME
OF COURSE, WE'RE TALKING ABOUT MY STUDIO, AFTER ALL
EVERYONE'S A LOT BETTER THAN I THOUGHT
BY THE WAY, WHERE ARE YOUR FRIENDS?
THEY'RE HERE, RIGHT?
WELL...
HUH?
I DIDN'T TELL SENSEI THAT I WOULD BE HERE
SENSEI KNOWS THE PAIN OF PUTTING IN YOUR BEST AND FAILING DESPITE THAT, SO
I DIDN'T WANT HER TO SEE US GO THROUGH THE SAME EXPERIENCE, IF POSSIBLE

AS I GOT BETTER, I LEARNED JUST HOW MUCH BETTER EVERYONE ELSE IS
MY, WHAT A PESSIMISTIC WAY TO LOOK AT IT
AND HERE I WAS, THINKING YOU WERE HERE FOR A FIGHT
WE WERE SAD AS WE REALIZED JUST HOW FAR BEHIND WE WERE
BUT SENSEI JUST LAUGHED IT OFF AS PROOF OF OUR IMPROVEMENT AND ABILITY TO RECOGNIZE OUR CURRENT LEVEL

THAT'S THAT'S WHY I CAME HERE TODAY
I WANTED TO SEE IT IN PERSON
IT'S NOT THAT WE'RE GIVING UP, BUT NOW,
I REALIZE THAT I LACK THE SKILL AT THIS CURRENT MOMENT

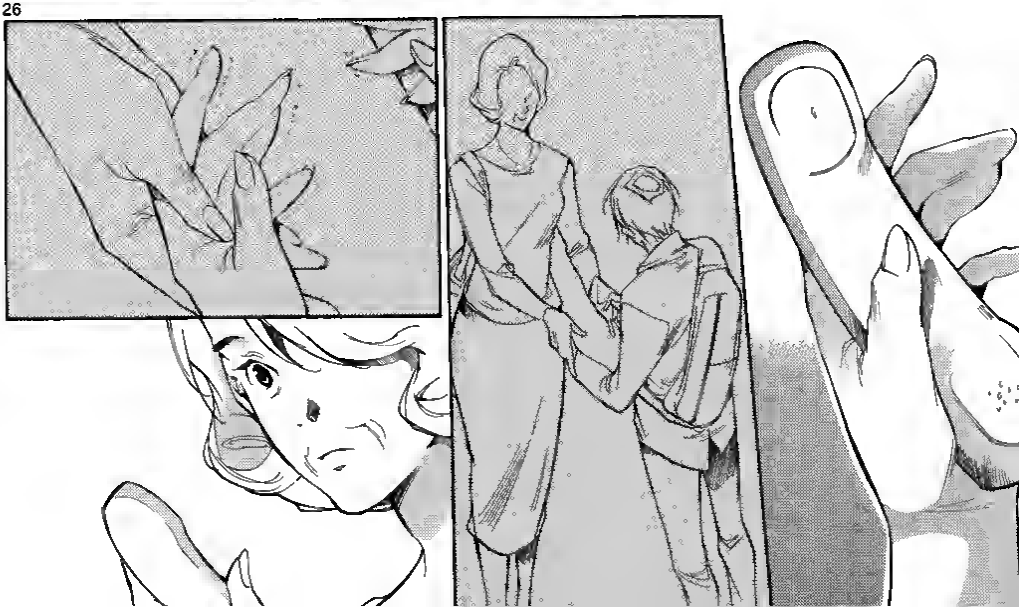
I WANTED TO SHOW YOU HOW GREAT OF A TIME I HAD WITH MY FRIENDS AND SENSE!
AND EVEN IF WE WERE TO LOSE...
WE WILL LOSE WITH SMILES ON OUR FACES
WELL THEN, PLEASE LOOK FORWARD TO OUR PERFORMANCE

RING
RING
RING
YES
THIS IS MORINO SPEAKING
THAT KID OF YOURS, HE HAS THE SAME FACE YOU HAD BACK THEN
24
UMM, WHO AM I SPEAKING TO?..
IS THIS KAWAUCHI SENSEI?
THAT EMPTY AND GRIM VISAGE, HELD BACK BY UNNECESSARY EMOTIONS NOT ONLY THAT, HE'S TOTALLY ENTHRALLED BY YOUR LOVE OF ALEGRI
THIS SEASON IS THE LAST TIME MY STUDIO WILL PERFORM

IT DOESN'T BOTHER ME THOUGH. EVERYTHING COMES TO ITS END, EVENTUALLY
HUH...
REGARDLESS, I'M GOING TO GO OUT THE WAY I CAME
THE WORLD IS CHANGING, AND THEY WANT SOMETHING NEW
I GUESS IT WAS FINALLY MY TIME TO BE CUT LOOSE AND THROWN ASIDE
ALSO .
AS FORTUNE WOULD HAVE IT, I'LL GET TO SEE IT AGAIN
YOUR ALEGRIAS

IT'S
IT'S JUST THAT..
YOUR KID IS PUSHING HIMSELF TO THE POINT OF BECOMING UNSTABLE
HE'S GOING TO FALL APART IF HE KEEPS UP

I THINK...
THAT WOULD BE REALLY UNFORTUNATE, IS ALL...



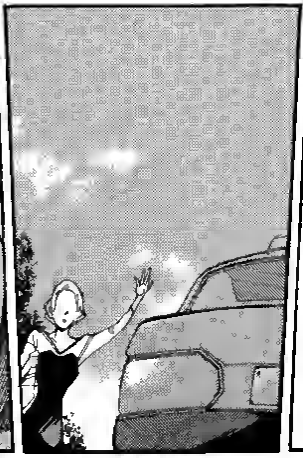
KAWAUCHI MIO STUDIO
RECRUITING FOR THEATRICAL PLAYS
SCREENING LOCATION
EXHIBITION DATE
!
Sensei...
You want to learn it, you say?
I don't mind, but why the sudden interest?
We're like you, sensei
We won't lose so easily

LOOKS LIKE YOU FINALLY CHANGED ICHINOSE-KUN
IT'S OUR TURN SOON
Even though we told her we won't give up..
ugh
whisper
whisper
ARE YOU OKAY, KIKUCHI -KUN?
NO WAY, I FEEL LIKE CRAP, BUT
I'LL BE FINE!
WE'RE GOING UP ON STAGE FROM OVER THERE
GOOD LUCK, I'LL PLAY MY BEST AS WELL

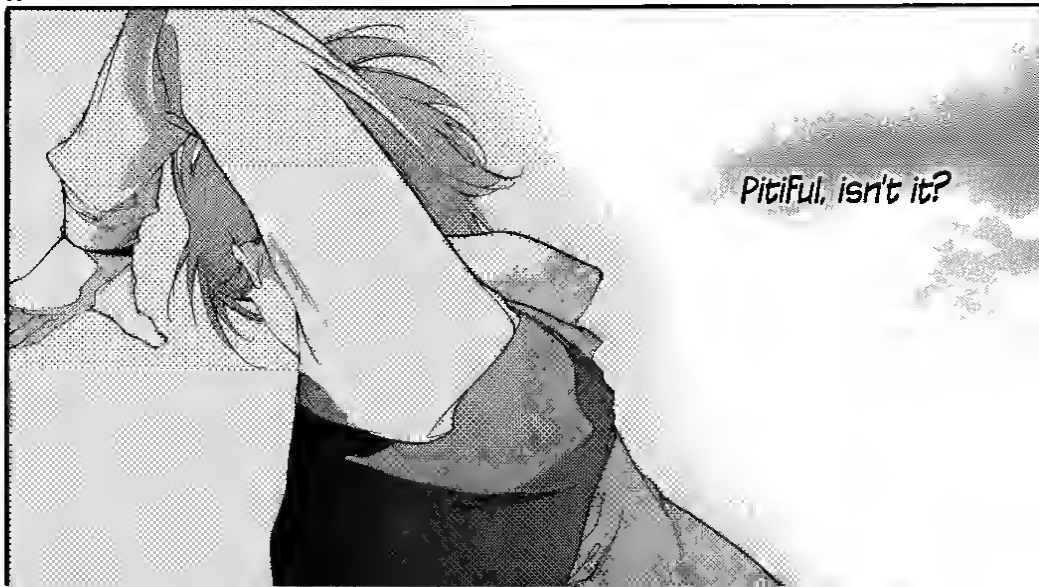
And yet...
I'm the one who can't stop shaking
I dragged everyone into this.
and I told them that we have to try harder than anyone else.
I can't stop it From shaking just by my own will
Damn...

I wonder why those boys are trying so hard...

For some people, they meet their strength's limits before they can meet their dreams



Look at me


Pitiful, isn't it?

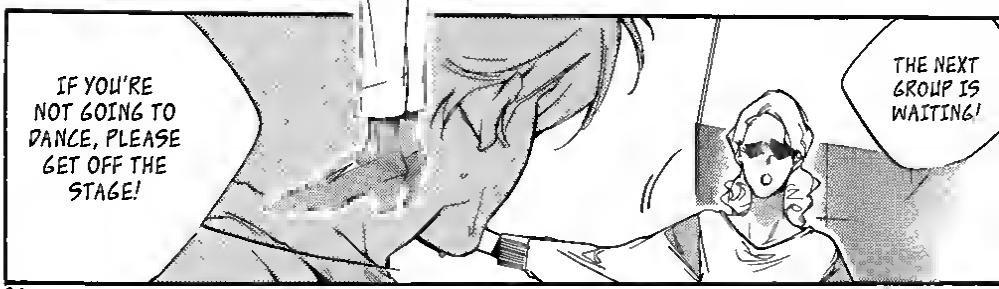
That's why...
We're having a lot of fun
That's not true Sensei
31
We want to shine

ㅈㅈㅈ
ㅈ.
ㅈ

LOOKS LIKE THEY'VE RUN OUT OF STEAM
AWW, THEY STOPPED
THE GUITARIST AND SINGER CAN'T KEEP UP AT ALL...

They're...
I THOUGHT WE MIGHT SEE SOMETHING INTERESTING
WHAT A DISAPPOINT-MENT

AND WHAT'S WITH THE DANCER,
WEARING SUCH FLASHY RED SHOES


IF YOU'RE NOT GOING TO DANCE, PLEASE GET OFF THE STAGE!
THE NEXT GROUP IS WAITING!

They're trying so hard...

These boys
They're here precisely because of that
PLEASE, GET OFF THE STAGE!
Because they're like me, flawed and weak
They wanted to dance my Tablao
They wanted to show everyone that we aren't worthless...

顔を上げて！
Levanta el rostro !
DON'T LOOK DOWN!

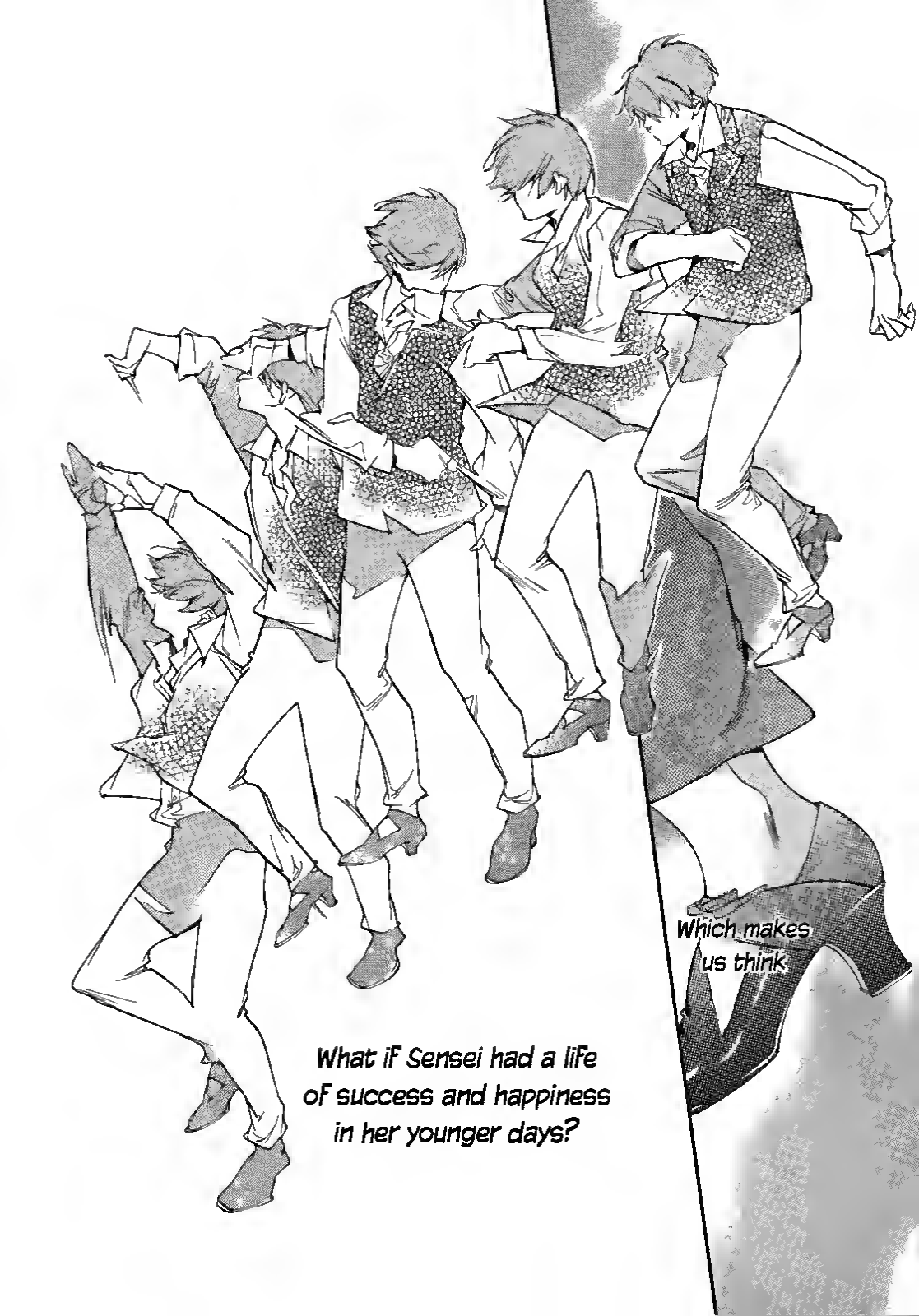
さあ踊って！
Vamos, baila !
GO ON, DANCE!

37
ARE YOU GOING TO GO HOME DEFEATED LIKE THIS?
WEREN'T YOU GOING TO SHOW EVERYONE HOW WONDERFUL YOU ARE? ARE YOU GOING TO LET THEM PITY YOU LIKE YOU'RE WORTHLESS TRASH?
JUST BECAUSE YOU FAIL ONCE DOESN'T MEAN YOU'RE WORTHLESS!
GO ON! LOOK AT ME!

Me siento
I'M SO
muy feliz ahora!
VERY HAPPY RIGHT NOW!

39
Vamos alla!!

When Sensei talks about her life
She speaks as if it was nothing but misfortune


What if Sensei had a life of success and happiness in her younger days?
Which makes us think

But, we don't see her life as unfortunate
Because if it wasn't for her life as it was, we wouldn't have been able to share these precious times now

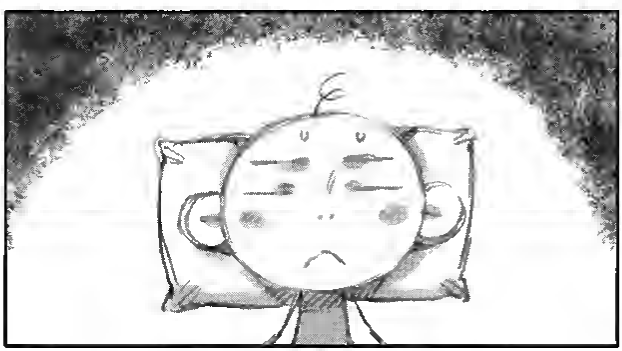
I feel bad for saying this, but
Sensei's misFortune was a Fortune For us.

I hope that
one day
She too can see
her life in a more
positive way

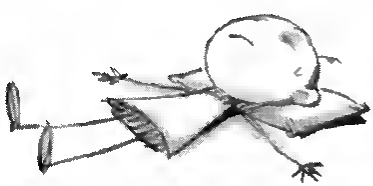
WAKE THEM UP, LET'S GO
SHH~
COME ON
I'M REALLY HUNGRY
snore
zZz
zZz
THEY SHOWED US A WONDERFUL ALEGRI
LET THEM REST A LITTLE BIT LONGER

My life wasn't a failure after all...
It wasn't a failure
Not in the least...

Yoga for people with stiff bodies



Corpse pose (apparently called shabasana)

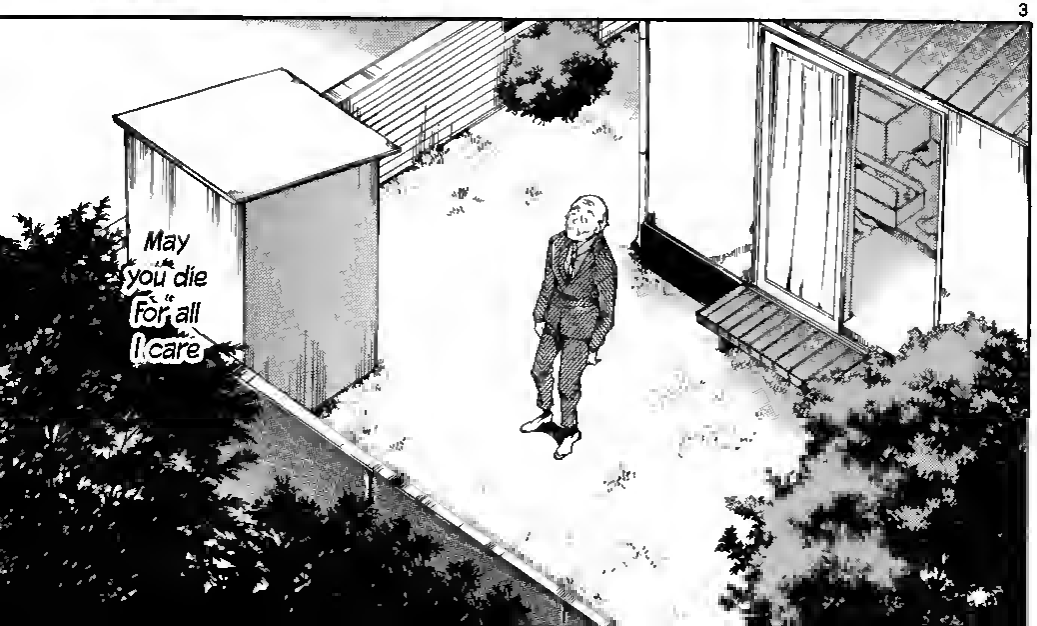


CHAPTER 22

CURRY BREAD

Within that chamber of judgment, I prayed to God

To you who refused to take me in your brace of love


May you die For all I care

MOM, WE'RE LEAVING
We're off
Yawn
ALRIGHT, HAVE A GOOD DAY~
HUH?
4
EH?
WHAT'S HE DOING, WEARING HIS SUIT...?
IT'S GRANDPA!

!
OH DEAR!
I feel like I've seen this before...
Somehow
DAD! ARE YOU THINKING OF GOING TO WORK?
DON'T YOU REMEMBER? YOU RETIRED AGES AGO!
It must be his way of reassuring himself...
Grandpa's suit...

ICHINOSE-KUN, ICHINOSE-KUN!
GOOD MORNING!
ICHIKAWA-KUN...

What's up?
I FOUND HIM AT THE STATION THIS MORNING AND I DRAGGED HIM HERE, CAN YOU GIVE ME A HAND?
KIKUCHI-KUN?!
7
NO...
OH! SPEAKING OF WHICH, WE GOT A PERFORMANCE TO DO AT MORINO-KUN'S SCHOOL'S FESTIVAL
I wonder if he's just nervous...
THERE'S THAT TOO, BUT.

WITHIN THAT CHAMBER OF JUDGMENT, I PRAYED TO GOD
TO YOU WHO REFUSED TO TAKE ME IN YOUR BRACE OF LOVE, MAY DARKNESS EMBRACE YOU AND DEATH TAKE YOU
YOU WHO IS FAMILIAR TO THE TASTE OF POISON, FOR YOU OFTEN SERVE IT TO OTHERS
WHEN YOU NEXT SEEK TO POISON ANOTHER, MAY YOU FALL INTO PAIN AND DISPAIR AS WELL...

WHEN I TRY TO PRACTICE IT, I FEEL LIKE I'M BEING SUCKED INTO DARKNESS MYSELF.
SHE CERTAINLY SEEM TO HAVE PUT A GREAT DEAL OF EFFORT INTO IT, BUT
WAS THAT REALLY TOMINAGA-SAN'S TIENTO POEM?

WELL, SHE DID TELL ME THAT IT'S FINE FOR ME TO MAKE EDITS TO MAKE IT EASIER TO SING...
A SINGLE LINE OF VERSE IS TYPICALLY COMPOSED OF 8 SYLLABLES AND EVERY EVEN LINE OF VERSE HAS A RHYMING TO IT...

9

ICHINOSE-KUN, WANNA GO HALFSIES?

IN THAT CASE, LET'S MAKE SOME SMALL CHANGES TO IT
BY THE WAY, DO YOU WANT SOME CURRY BREAD? I BOUGHT TOO MANY

TIENTO IS SAID TO BE LIKE THE SUN AND THE SHADOW BECAUSE THE MELODY WITHIN THE SONG CHANGES HALFWAY
SPEAKING OF WHICH, HOW IS THE TANGO PORTION OF THE POEM?
THE FIRST HALF IS VERY DARK, BUT THE SECOND HALF SHOULD BE LIGHT
DOES TOMINAGA-SAN'S POEM BRIGHTEN UP LATER?
This is surprisingly good
HERE

RARARA?
PAN... DE KURI?
WHAT'S THAT SUPPOSE TO MEAN?
THAT'S WHAT I THOUGHT AS WELL, BUT APPARENTLY, SHE HAD A TOUGH TIME THINKING UP THE SECOND HALF,
SO SHE TOLD ME TO JUST REPEAT THIS PORTION
lalala
Pan de
curry

RARARA CURRY BREAD...

TADA~
I COULDN'T HELP MYSELF SO I WENT AND BOUGHT IT!
ai alba
WOW, WHAT A PRETTY GREEN DRESS!
FLAMENCO COSTUMES ARE SO GREAT, BUT THEY'RE A BIT EXPENSIVE, AREN'T THEY.
YES, IT WAS AROUND 600 DOLLARS...

They allowed me to buy it if I promised to pay it back when I'm older.
SI SIX HUNDRED?!
That much?...
EVEN SO, IT WAS ON SALE
YOUR FOOTING IS STILL TERRIBLE!
DRESS UP AS YOU MAY, YOU'RE STILL TOO CRUDE WHEN IT COMES TO DANCING!
!
YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO MATCH THE GUITAR LIKE THAT!
I'M TRYING MY BEST.. IT'S JUST NOT WORKING OUT FOR SOME REASON...
DON'T LIE TO ME, YOU'VE BEEN SKIPPING ALL YOUR PRACTICES LATELY!
...
I... I GOTTA GO TO CRAM SCHOOL, SO I'M GOING HOME.

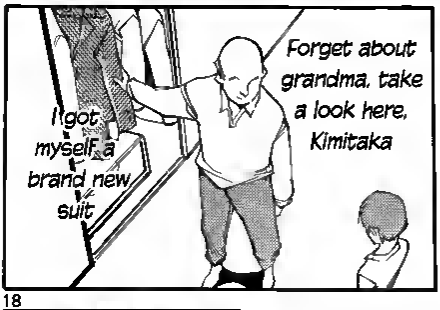
....
THIS IS RIDICULOUS
I'M GOING HOME
AH
WAIT, MOCHITZUKI!
パニー!
THE FESTIVAL IS JUST NEXT WEEK
WE'RE IN QUITE A STUMP, AREN'T WE
OH NO, WHAT'RE WE GOING TO DO

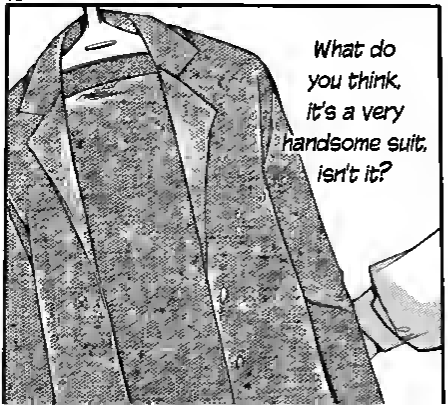
YOU KNOW THE GIRL WHO PRETENDED TO BE TOMINAGA'S FRIEND AND BULLIED HER?
AT SCHOOL, SHE'S THE ONE BEING BULLIED NOW...
...
Say, Tamura-san, can you stop comparing everyone against each other when we're all friends?
If you keep up with that kind of act, no one is going to want to be your friend
IT'S WHAT SHE GETS FOR BEING SO FULL OF HERSELF...
What did you just say me? I can't believe someone dumber than me is saying something like that to me!
I LAUGHED SEEING HER SUFFER THE SAME FATE THAT SHE SOWED, BUT...
FOR TOMINAGA, DESPITE EVERYTHING THAT'S HAPPENED, SHE CONTINUES TO COMPARE HERSELF TO TAMURA
SHE STILL THINKS THAT EVEN IF SHE TRIES HER BEST, SHE WON'T BE ABLE TO ACCOMPLISH ANYTHING

IS THAT SO...
...I UNDERSTAND HER CIRCUMSTANCES, BUT...
IF WE DON'T PRACTICE, WE WON'T BE ABLE TO PERFORM AT ALL...
THAT'S TRUE..
WHAT SHOULD WE DO...
WELL, WE HAVE ICHINOSE-SAN AND ICHIKAWA-SAN, DON'T WE?
!
IT'S ALRIGHT
I'LL MAKE CHANGES TO THE PERFORMANCE TO ACCOMODATE YOU TWO
ALTHOUGH, IT IS RARE FOR BOYS TO PERFORM TIENTO...
BUT I DON'T THINK WE'D BE ABLE TO...

I WONDER, IF ALL YOU BOYS REALLY CARE ABOUT...
IS JUST HAVING FUN, OR WOULD YOU ALSO ENJOY SOMETHING MORE?
I'M HOME...
Dad, cut it out!!
Take off that suit!
Hurry up and get in the bath!

GOSH...
I WONDER WHAT'S WRONG WITH HIM...
What happened to grandma?
Hey, grandpa


I got myself a brand new suit
Forget about grandma, take a look here, Kimitaka


What do you think, it's a very handsome suit, isn't it?

Okay...
She said she wants to live by herself
Forget about that ol' hag!

I'll be alright...
Even if I'm by myself...
Look, Kimitaka
Grandpa's still got it, don't you think so?
GRANDPA, I'M HOME

GRANDPA LOOKS PRETTY GOOD, RIGHT?
SAY, WHAT DO YOU THINK?
OH! WAS IT ALREADY THAT TIME?
YEAH...
.....

第十三回
葉山学園
中等部
学園祭
クッキー
うどん
TOMINAGA-SAN, ARE YOU HAVING CURRY BREAD AGAIN TODAY?
売店
HERE YOU ARE. 6 TOTAL. ARE YOU GETTING THEM FOR YOUR FRIENDS?
DID YOU MAKE UP WITH TAMURA-SAN?
NOT QUITE
THERE'S SO MANY STALLS, BUT THERE'S NOT A SINGLE ONE THAT I LIKE
THAT'S TOO BAD...
I LIKED SEEING THE TWO OF YOU AS GOOD FRIENDS AND EATING THESE TOGETHER...

2-E
Flamenco show
.....
ん…

HAHAHA, AS I THOUGHT, IT'S TOTALLY EMPTY!
NO ONE'S HERE...
UH...
WELL, IT'S NOT LIKE WE DIDN'T EXPECT THIS, RIGHT?...
CLASS D'S COMEDY ACT IS GOING ON AT THE SAME TIME AND THEY'RE REALLY POPULAR

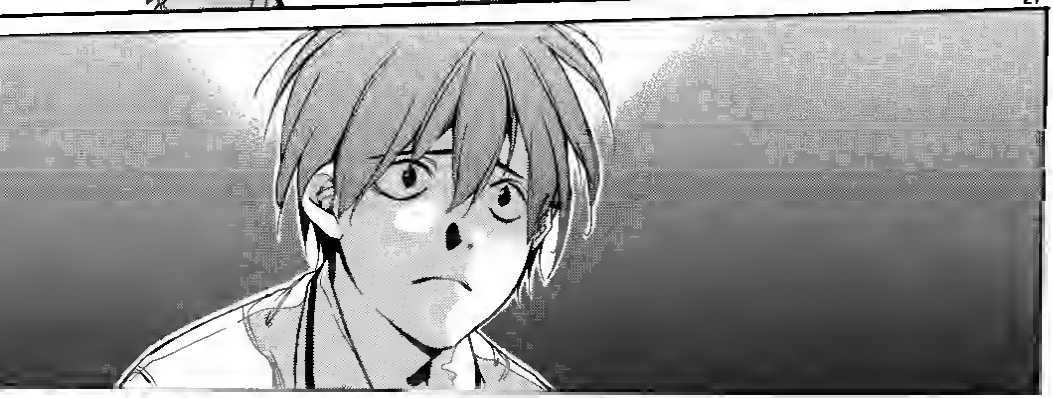
TOMINAGA, WHERE WERE YOU? WE'RE ONLY ALLOWED TO USE THIS CLASSROOM FOR A SPECIFIC AMOUNT OF TIME!
This is no laughing matter! ※
IT'S LUNCH SOON, SO I WENT TO GO GET SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE
OUR STALL'S CURRY BREAD IS REALLY DELICIOUS
PLEASE EAT THEM WITH EVERYONE LATER
.....
CURRY BREAD...
UMM...
AH...
DID YOU EAT THIS OFTEN WITH THAT TAMURA-SAN?

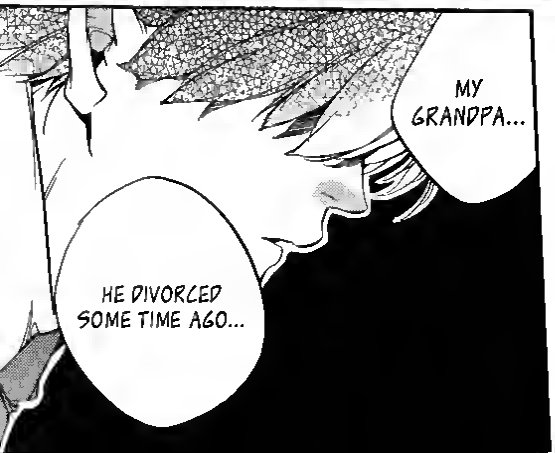
WELL..
RIGHT
IT'S SOMETHING LIKE THAT
WELL, THE LINES OF THE TANGO YOU WROTE...
THEY WERE ABOUT THE CURRY BREAD, SO I FIGURED
LET'S NOT WORRY ABOUT THAT STUFF
WE DON'T HAVE A LOT OF TIME LEFT, SO LET'S JUST DANCE!
ICHINOSE-SAN AND ICHIKAWA-SAN CAN BE OUR AUDIENCE, SO LET'S GO FOR IT
THAT GIRL'S SCREWED
ALL THE TEACHERS ARE TOO BUSY WITH THE FESTIVAL, SO NO ONE IS AROUND TO STOP THEM
DID YOU JUST SEE THAT?
I SAW!
THOSE GIRLS WERE TOTALLY BULLYING HER

.....
HEY, JUST A SECOND YOU GUYS!
WHO WERE YOU TALKING ABOUT JUST NOW?
UH...
IT'S THAT GIRL NAMED TAMURA FROM YOUR CLASS
THERE'S A BROKEN REFRIGERATOR OR SOME SUCH...
AND THE GIRLS ARE TOSSING ROTTEN FOOD AT HER BEHIND THE GYMNASIUM

WHAT SHOULD WE DO..?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN ..?
THERE'S...
THERE'S NOTHING TO DO

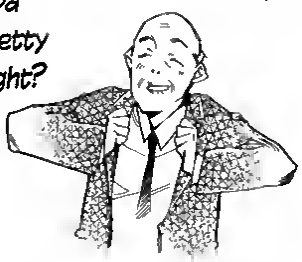
.....
HUH...
IT'S NOT LIKE SHE'S GOING TO THANK US FOR HELPING HER OR ANYTHING...
I...
SHE'S BEEN MAKING ME FEEL ANXIOUS AND HORRIBLE FOR AGES AND I HATE MYSELF FOR STILL LONGING FOR SOME COMPANIONSHIP DESPITE KNOWING HOW HORRIBLE SHE WAS!
THAT'S WHY I DECIDED THAT I'D DANCE FOR MYSELF AND NO ONE ELSE TODAY
BUT, TOMINAGA...
OF COURSE!
IF I DANCED WHILE WEARING THIS DRESS
ARE YOU REALLY OKAY WITH LEAVING HER ALONE?
LOOK AT THIS DRESS, ISN'T IT BEAUTIFUL?
I'M SURE I'LL BECOME MORE CONFIDENT IN MYSELF...





Look.

Grandpa looks pretty good, right?



THE DAY AFTER MY GRANDMA LEFT
GRANDPA BOUGHT A REALLY EXPENSIVE SUIT FOR HIMSELF
AND...
HE WORE THAT SUIT, AND SAID TO ME
"GRANDPA LOOKS PRETTY GOOD, RIGHT?"
HE WANTED TO TELL ME THAT, EVEN THOUGH HE'S ALONE NOW, HE CAN STILL STAND PROUD AND TALL
LATELY, HE'S BEEN WEARING THAT SUIT AGAIN
....
HE'S STARTING TO HIT THE AGE WHERE HIS MEMORY IS STARTING TO FAIL ON HIM, BUT HE'S STILL WEARING THE SAME SUIT FROM 10 YEARS AGO

IF HE KNEW HE WAS THE TYPE TO STILL DEPEND ON THAT KIND OF EMPTY BRAVADO TO FOOL HIMSELF EVEN AFTER SO MANY YEARS...
WHEN GRANDMA TOLD HIM SHE WAS LEAVING HIM,
HE SHOULD HAVE FOUGHT HARDER TO CONVINCE HER TO STAY...
EVEN IF HE WAS GOING TO GET REJECTED
HE SHOULD HAVE TRIED HIS VERY BEST TO HAVE HER STAY...

THAT DRESS
IT'S VERY BEAUTIFUL, SO PLEASE
TOMINAGA-SAN, I HOPE THAT YOU CAN BECOME A PERSON THAT IS JUST AS BEAUTIFUL AS THAT DRESS...
MY MOM WAS SO ANGRY WITH ME
BUT I BEGGED HER OVER AND OVER AGAIN, AND SHE EVENTUALLY BOUGHT IT FOR ME

IF THIS DRESS IS JUST FOR SHOW, IT'S NO GOOD, HUH?
OKAY, I...
I'LL BE BACK!
GUYS, LET'S ALL GO TOGETHER!
AH WAIT...

32
What's with you, acting all cool~
Why you~
WELL, WE'VE LEARNED A LOT FROM MORINO-SENSEI, SO...
WHY DON'T WE TRY DANCING AROUND A BIT?
SPEAKING OF WHICH, WHAT SHOULD WE DO NOW?
EVERYONE'S GONE AND LEFT

Within that
chamber of judgment,
I prayed to God

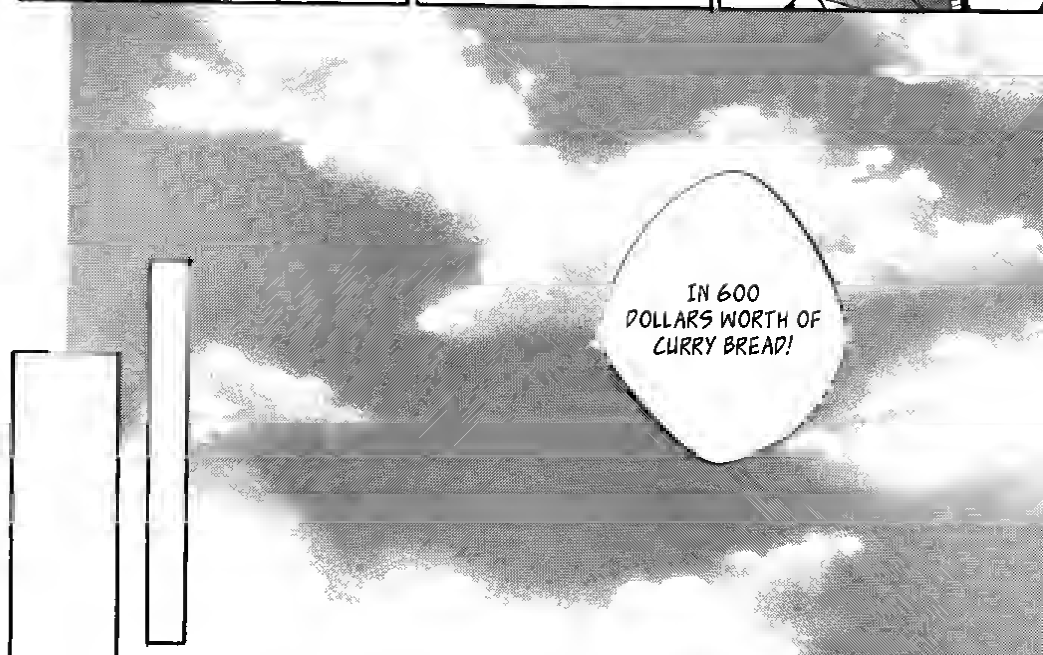
May your words
of discouragement
never come true
And yet, no matter much I pray, it was futile
For my life was still filled with loneliness

If that may be the case
Let me dance to my heart's content
Till you, who watch me From aFar, become Filled with envy

Curry-bread
Curry-bread...
Hey!
You girls!
What're you doing over there!?
Oh~
Curry-bread...
BECAUSE OF YOUR POINTLESS SENSE OF JUSTICE, YOU'RE GOING TO GET WRITTEN UP FOR THIS TOO, YOU KNOW

My green dress
This red Flower
AS ALWAYS, YOU'RE TOO KIND TO THE POINT OF STUPIDITY
DID YOU THINK I'D BE THANKFUL OR SOMETHING? YOU WON'T GET A SINGLE THING FROM ME

A MERE THANK YOU WOULDN'T BE ENOUGH!
I can become stronger
I'LL HAVE YOU PAY IT ALL BACK
As long as I have them
THIS DRESS, IT WAS 600 DOLLARS!
HEY!
WHAT'S YOUR PROBLEM? SHE JUST SAVED YOU
WAIT!



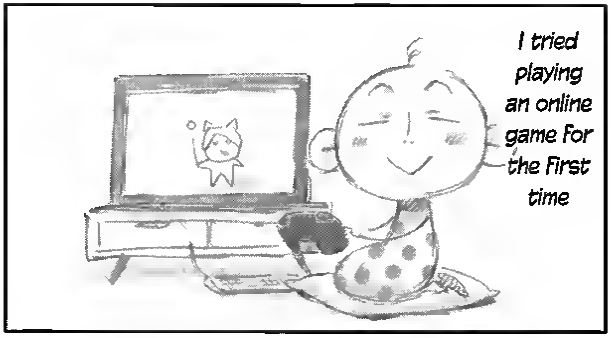
I'm sure I'll become stronger

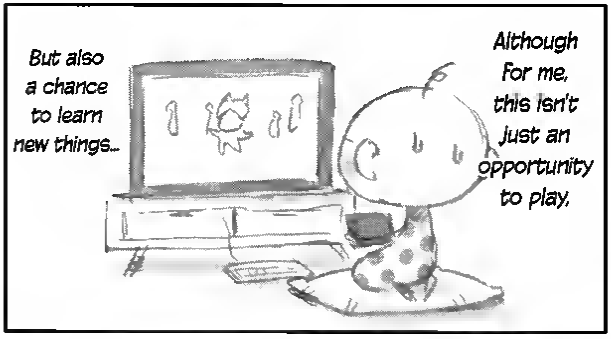
OH, DAD!
YOU FINALLY TOOK OFF THAT SUIT? THAT'S GREAT
!!!
39
CURRY BREAD
CURRY BREAD, CURRY BREAD
WHAT?
HUH? I DIDN'T BUY ANY
RATHER, DON'T YOU ALREADY HAVE ONE IN YOUR HAND?

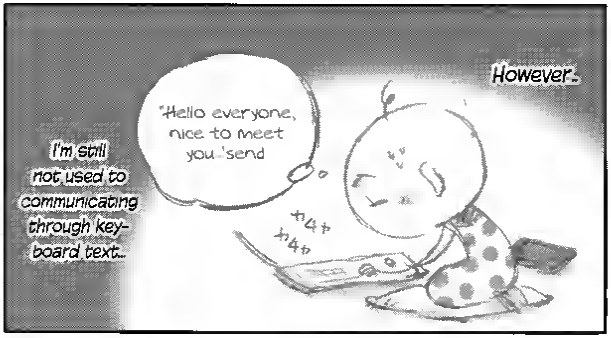
SORRY I MADE YOU GO THROUGH THE EFFORTS OF SINGING TO MY GRANDPA...
NAH, IT'S COOL
BUT IT LOOKS LIKE SINGING THAT SONG TO HIM PUT HIS HEART AT EASE...
!
Curry bread, curry bread
NO...
I THINK HIS OBSESSION JUST MIGHT HAVE MOVED ONTO SOMETHING ELSE INSTEAD...
TETSUGAKU LETRA [5] - END

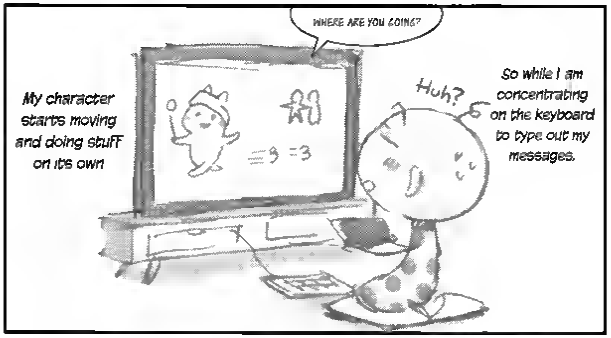
鉄楽レトラ

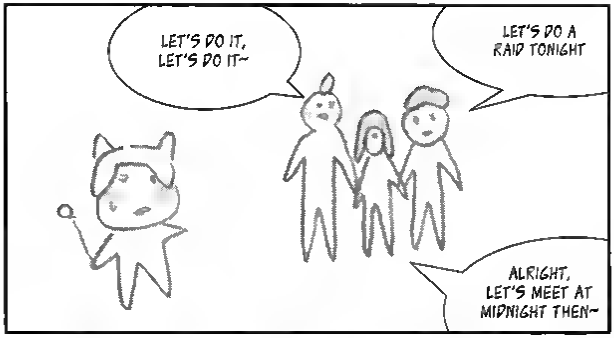
tetsugaku letra

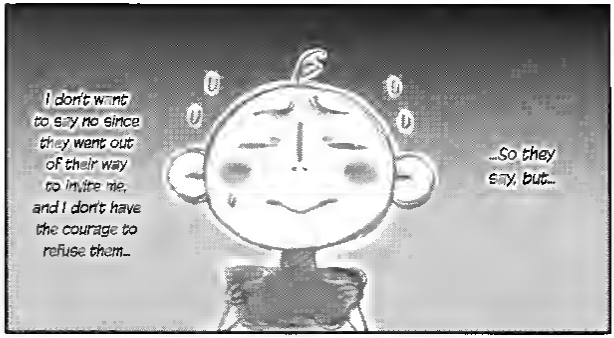

I tried playing an online game for the first time

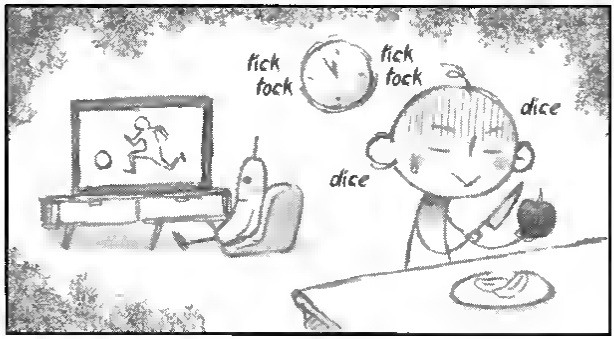

But also a chance to learn new things...
Although for me, this isn't just an opportunity to play.

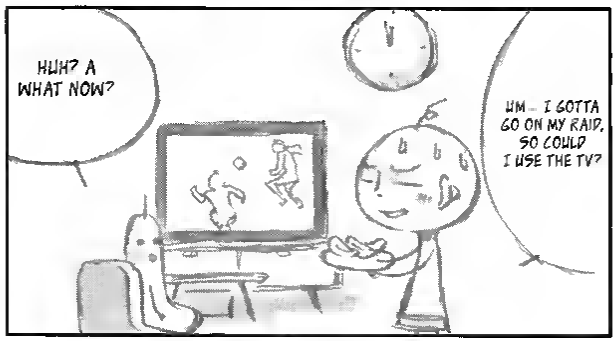

I'm still not used to communicating through key-board text...
"Hello everyone, nice to meet you. send
However...


WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
My character starts moving and doing stuff on it's own
Huh?
So while I am concentrating on the keyboard to type out my messages.


LET'S DO IT, LET'S DO IT~
LET'S DO A RAID TONIGHT
ALRIGHT, LET'S MEET AT MIDNIGHT THEN~


I don't want to say no since they went out of their way to invite me, and I don't have the courage to refuse them...
...So they say, but...


tick tock
tick tock
dice
dice


HUH? A WHAT NOW?
UM - I GOTTA GO ON MY RAID, SO COULD I USE THE TV?